

IN THE ABSTRACT

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substitute therefor the enclosed New Abstract.

NEW ABSTRACT

An optical device scans three information layers by three radiation beams having three respective wavelengths and polarizations. The three wavelengths substantially differ from each other. The device includes a radiation source for emitting the three radiation beams, an objective lens system for converging the three radiation beams beam on the positions of the three respective information layers, and a phase structure having a non-periodic stepped profile. Furthermore, the phase structure includes birefringent material sensitive to the three polarizations and the stepped profile is designed for introducing three wavefront modifications for the three wavelengths, respectively. One of the wavefront modifications is of a type different from the others and one of the polarizations differs from the others.